

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Petersburg****Project Title:**

# Petersburg - Medical Center - Pharmacy Information System Module

**State Funding Requested: \$ 34,000****House District: 2 - A**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Funding for pharmacy management information system that automating ordering and dispensing of medications at Petersburg hospital.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$34,000**Funding Secured*Amount FY*Other Pending Requests*Amount FY*Anticipated Future Need*Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Funding for pharmacy management information system at Petersburg hospital. The vendor that provides the computer information system for Petersburg Medical Center has developed a pharmacy module that automates the ordering and dispensing of medications thus reducing the possibility of copying down or administering the wrong medications to patients.

The most common errors in hospitals today are medication errors. Due to the frequency of their occurrence, and the far reaching potential for harm, insurance companies, Medicare and the Joint Commission on Accreditation in Hospitals (JCAHO) are strongly encouraging hospitals to automate their pharmacy administration in order to decrease the likelihood of medication error occurrences.

The system will also facilitate checking for allergies, contra-indications, and drug interactions. It also serves as the foundation for bar coding medication administration, a project we anticipate in the not-too-distant future that would further reduce the potential for drug errors.

**Project Timeline:**

FY09

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Petersburg Medical Center

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

**CITY OF PETERSBURG  
CAPITAL PROJECT REQUEST**

**Project Name:** PETERSBURG Pharmacy Module  
**Project Location:** Petersburg, Alaska  
**Legislative Districts:** House District 2; Senate District A

**Project Description:** Petersburg Medical Center is in the second year of a three year project to implement an electronic medical record. President Bush set a ten-year objective at the beginning of his term of office to have all hospitals implement paperless medical records. In compliance with that plan, Petersburg Medical Center is now in the second year of a three-year plan to implement an electronic medical record.

Phase one of the Medical Centers plan was to bring current electronic patient care systems (finance, billing and accounting, order entry and results reporting) up to a fully implemented state. This phase was completed last fiscal year. Phase two (for the current year) is to implement the Pharmacy Order Entry, Clinical Documentation and Electronic Medication Administration Record. The hospital is partially through this phase of the project. The funding requested from the Capital Budget is \$34,000 for the Pharmacy Module including the Electronic Medication Administration Record. Phase three, planned for next fiscal year is installation of the Physician Practice Module which will make the outpatient family practice clinic paperless.

A paperless medical record is a national priority in order to facilitate the transmission of medical information between health care facilities. This sharing of information is even more critical for small rural hospitals, such as Petersburg Medical Center, because of the limited services offered in Petersburg, which requires a large number of patients to complete their course of medical treatment outside of the community. The Pharmacy Module is a very critical component of this electronic medical record, because of the improved accuracy of medication dispensing that it makes possible. Nationwide, medication errors lead the field of reported hospital errors, and are potentially the most damaging to patients.

The Petersburg Medical Center governing board has made this transition from a paper-dependent system to a paperless system one of their top priorities for the past three years. Because of the large expenditure for computers and software related to going paperless, Petersburg Medical Center has requested funding from the capital budget to assist in its acquisition. The cost of the software related to this conversion is \$119,000. Computers and related personnel training will easily double this cost. Petersburg Medical Center is requesting \$34,000 of the \$119,000 expenditure from the capital budget to facilitate implementation of this important system.

**Funding Request:** FY 2009 Capital Grant \$34,000

**Total Estimated Project Cost:** \$119,000 (software only)

**Number of Years to Complete Project:** 3 years, began July 2007; substantial completion July 2009

**Matching Funds Available:** Petersburg Medical Center Capital Budget \$85,000

**Prior State Appropriations:** None

**Are Funds for this Project in the Governor's Proposed Budget?** No

**Public Review Process & Community Priority:** The Petersburg Medical Center elected governing board has placed this among their highest priorities for the past three years.

**Responsible Party for On-Going Maintenance & Operations Cost:** Petersburg Medical Center

**Project Contact Information:** Richard Underkofler, City Manager  
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